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black children. Was that my third time, Mr. President?

SENATOR CUDABACK: No, Senator. Senator Raikes, on the motion to reconsider the vote taken on FA242.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members, and thank you, Senator Chambers, for not singing. I do think you're...you're off on the wrong track on your discussion of the mandate implied by this \$2,000 per student. First off, schools that find themselves and...or would find themselves in a situation where they had no local resource would be those who had spending that was above the average in a comparable group of school systems. So chances are if school systems are at their levy limit, have no additional resource capacity, one of the reasons that they would be there is because they had addressed teacher salaries. They were spending funds to address teacher salaries. Now, you may have a school system that is at the levy limit, but simply...well, is paying very low salaries. The question I think that you would ask at that point is, why? What else is going on? And I think there would be some...some answers to that that would be enlightening in that particular situation. Now interestingly enough, you may also have school systems that have plenty of levy capacity and simply have elected, for whatever reason, not to pay teachers any more money or even comparable wages. To some extent, Senator, your argument is in defense of those systems. We don't want to pay our teachers and we don't want to do the state anything that would require us to pay teachers more money even if we, as a local system, have the funds to do that. So I simply ask you to keep that in mind. The possibility that Senator Chambers raises I think is extremely remote and the possibilities that he brings up in this context, the ones that you would like to address with a stimulus for school system addressed teacher salaries are much more numerous. So, again, I would oppose the motion to reconsider and the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Senator Chambers, on your motion to reconsider, and this will be your third time, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the